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George R. Dohmann

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9/21/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

SCHUPP ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: 10/014,717 FILED: NOVEMBER 13, 2001

FOR: GENES FOR THE BIOSYNTHESIS OF EPOTHILONES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants believe this paper is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, and so under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3) no fees are required. If a fee is deemed to be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 19-

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants wish to call the Examiner's attention to the references cited on the attached form(s) PTO-1449.

The listed references are of record in parent Application No. 09/568,472 filed May 10, 2000 and 09/335,409 filed June 17, 1999, and copies are available therein. However, applicants are willing to send copies of any or all of these references at the Examiner's request.

The Examiner is requested to consider the foregoing information in relation to this application and indicate that each reference was considered by returning a copy of the initialed PTO 1449 form(s).

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Corporation Patent and Trademark Dept. 564 Morris Avenue Summit, NJ 07901-1027

Date: 2/21/2002

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